

The Director

Central Intelligence Agency

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Washington, D.C. 20505

10 October 1979

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Dear [redacted]

Since my 7 September response to your note about security I have continued to reflect on the questions you raised. I want to add some more comments, and let you know that you have stimulated my preparation of an item which will appear soon in my Notes from the Director series.

It is my view that the Congressional leaks are no more numerous than those in the Executive Branch. I do think, and hope, that there are fewer leaks from the Agency than elsewhere. In part, this is because we are so security conscious and recognize how much of our work depends on tight security. We also leak less, I believe, because we are not directly involved in the policy process. A good many of the leaks are misguided efforts to sell some program or policy to the public and the Congress--that is, some individual feels that the program he is supporting will be treated more favorably if some classified information is made available. I believe there is less inclination for that kind of behavior here at the Agency.

Still, the only way to correct the overall problem is for each of us to become more security conscious rather than assuming that someone else can or should solve the problem.

Again, I am appreciative of your concern and suggestions.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stansfield Turner".

STANSFIELD TURNER

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